

1 S T A T E M E N T
2 O F

3 DONALD HULL

US EPA RECORDS CENTER REGION 5



471360

COPY

5 IN RE: In the Matter of the Albion-Sheridan Township
6 Landfill Site

7 BY: MR. KURT N. LINDLAND
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9 Chicago, Illinois 60604, appearing on behalf
10 of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

11 MR. CHARLES E. BARBIERI
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13 Lansing, Michigan 48933, appearing on behalf
14 of the Deponent, Donald Hull.

15 REPORTED BY: ACRO COURT REPORTERS, INC.
16 (Toni L. VanSyckle, Reporter)

17 At Albion City Hall, 112 Case Street, Albion
18 Michigan, on Thursday, June 4, 1992 commencing at or about
19 the hour of 2:05 p.m.

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25

1 A. First one I was a gunnery on a nine millimeter
2 anti-aircraft; Fort Totten, Long Island. In 1941 I was
3 transferred to the North Atlantic when we traded
4 Britain 50 destroyers for Burmuda, so on and so forth.

5 I went to Newfoundland. I was in an outfit there,
6 a motor sergeant, gunnery sergeant. I came back to the
7 states in '43, if my memory is right. Was in Texas for
8 awhile and went to Germany and joined the third army.
9 After a trip across Europe and so on, I eventually came
10 back to the states and was discharged July 3rd, 1945.

11 Q. What was your job title in Newfoundland?

12 A. I told you I was a gunnery sergeant, I was a motor
13 sergeant, I was a -- army you can be doing anything.

14 Q. Just a range. So there was no set job title, you did a
15 number of different things from 1940 to 1945?

16 A. Right.

17 Q. Okay. When you got out of the army, what was your
18 first job after the army?

19 A. I went to work for Corning Glass Works as a mechanic in
20 the press wear plant in Corning, New York.

21 Q. That was in 1945?

22 A. 1945.

23 Q. And could you briefly describe your job
24 responsibilities then?

25 A. Job responsibilities would be maintaining glass forming

1 neutralized with lime. We had a very large acid -- we
2 always called it the acid room but it had a name for
3 it. Acid disposal room I suppose you'd call it.

4 Q. Okay. And was that material you say it was neutralized
5 with lime?

6 A. Lime, yes.

7 Q. And was it then stored at Corning or was it --

8 A. That was taken away by someone, but I have no idea who,
9 it was an acid reclaiming or whatever you call it. I
10 did not have anything to do with the acid room.

11 Q. Okay. Do you know where that material was brought to?

12 A. I know where the last one went that when the plant
13 closed there was, oh, probably 12 to 15 drums of acid.
14 There was not a licensed person in Michigan that could
15 take it. And Corning finally found licensed people in
16 Illinois and they came in and took the acid.

17 Q. Do you know where they took it?

18 A. Took it to Illinois somewhere.

19 Q. Okay.

20 A. I have no way of knowing. The records are in the
21 archives back at Corning.

22 Q. Do you know if any of the acid material was brought to
23 the Albion-Sheridan Township Landfill?

24 A. Absolutely not, the only thing that was taken there was
25 the lime.

1 Q. The lime?

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. And was that brought in bags?

4 A. That was taken in a dump truck.

5 Q. Okay. Do you know if any other material was brought
6 there by Corning?

7 A. Well, everyday trash, dirt, cardboard, paper, sweeping
8 material, metal shavings from the machine shop, regular
9 plant trash. Plus when we had furnace repair, the
10 brick from the furnaces were taken there when repaired;
11 or tanks as we called them, melters.

12 Q. A refractory?

13 A. Yes, were taken there.

14 Q. So the bricks from the refractory were taken to the
15 landfill?

16 A. Right.

17 Q. Why were those bricks taken there?

18 A. What are you going to do with them?

19 Q. Were they broken?

20 A. They were wore out. After a melting unit runs so long,
21 the brick gets thin, and worn out, and breaks and so on
22 and so forth; and after you put millions and millions
23 of tons of glass through them, they eventually break
24 down. So every few years you have to have a major
25 furnace repair.

1 mentioned the mineral spirits, do you remember where
2 that went?

3 A. No.

4 Q. What kind of container was the lime material brought to
5 the dump in, do you know?

6 A. A dump truck.

7 Q. So it wasn't placed in containers, then placed in the
8 drums, it was --

9 A. We had a setting alongside the plant and the lime came
10 out, finished its job, and the acid drum went into the
11 dump truck and that was taken to the landfill.

12 Q. So the lime was separated from the acid, then put in
13 the dump truck, then taken to the landfill?

14 A. Yes.

15 Q. Do you know whether any chemical analysis were run on
16 the lime material?

17 A. Well, now I couldn't swear to it but I'm sure there
18 was.

19 Q. Why do you say there probably was?

20 A. Well, our people run all kinds of tests on acid and
21 lime, I suppose that's what they were down there for.

22 Q. Do you know what kind of tests?

23 A. (Witness shaking head.)

24 Q. Approximately how much of the lime material went out
25 each week, do you know?

- 1 A. No, I don't know how much it was. When the dump truck
2 got full, it went out and dumped it.
- 3 Q. Do you remember how many dump trucks would go out there
4 each week?
- 5 A. A week? I doubt if there was over a dump truck a week.
- 6 Q. So less than one a week, maybe one every two weeks?
- 7 A. Something like that, and I won't -- I can't swear to
8 that.
- 9 Q. Was the use of the Albion-Sheridan Township Landfill
10 for dumping lime, was that used consistent or were
11 there -- and by that I mean were there breaks in the
12 use of that landfill, for example, did Corning bring
13 lime to another landfill for awhile?
- 14 A. No, all of Corning's material went to the Sheridan
15 Township Landfill.
- 16 Q. Are you familiar with a landfill known as Copix
17 Landfill?
- 18 A. Never heard of it.
- 19 Q. Okay. Do you know of any other companies or users of
20 the landfill?
- 21 A. Sure, all the companies in town used it: Union Steel,
22 McGraw Edison, Brooks Foundry, Albion Malable; it's
23 Hayes Albion now or it was, it's Harvard Industries
24 now.
- 25 Q. Harvard.

1 Q. And you put those in the drums?

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. And then what would you do with the drums then?

4 A. We would take them in the Detroit area and sell the
5 material and bring them back at least 12, 14 drums so
6 we could keep on using them.

7 Q. Did you ever bring those drums out to the landfill?

8 A. No.

9 Q. You mention that there was some other industries that
10 used the landfill.

11 Do you know specifically whether any industries
12 brought materials in drums, 55 gallon drums?

13 A. No, I don't.

14 Q. What industries do you remember seeing using the
15 landfill?

16 A. Union Steel, Corning Glass Works.

17 Q. Do you know what kind of material those two companies
18 brought out there?

19 A. No.

20 Q. Do you know of anybody that would know what kind of
21 material they brought there?

22 A. No, I don't.

23 Q. You mentioned that you would pick up batteries from
24 companies in town, gas stations, service stations?

25 A. Yes.

1 Q. Do you know whether any of the local gas stations or
2 service stations used the landfill?

3 A. I have no idea, really.

4 Q. Approximately how many times did you visit that
5 landfill?

6 A. Personally? I would think Saturday's clean up around
7 our home and that type of thing, several times a year.

8 Q. And during those visits out to the landfill, do you
9 remember seeing any drums of material out there?

10 A. Not really, no.

11 Q. Okay. You mentioned too that Corning Glass used that
12 landfill?

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. What type of material did they bring out there, do you
15 remember?

16 A. No, it was just like general floor sweepings and
17 things.

18 Q. Do you remember seeing a truck out there that had
19 Corning's name on it?

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. And that's how you know that they used the landfill?

22 A. Uh-huh.

23 Q. In your interview, again, with Paul Rogers, you mention
24 there was a white slurry that you thought Corning
25 brought out to Copick's landfill?

- 1 A. Okay.
- 2 Q. Do you remember saying that?
- 3 A. Yes.
- 4 Q. Do you know whether that white slurry was also brought
5 to the Albion landfill?
- 6 A. No.
- 7 Q. You don't recall seeing it there or you don't know
8 whether it was there?
- 9 A. I don't recall going to the Albion landfill.
- 10 Q. Do you remember seeing it go to Copick's landfill?
- 11 A. Yes.
- 12 Q. And exactly how did you see that happen, was it with
13 the trucks out there?
- 14 A. Sunday's I would go out myself and pick up the truck
15 and take the truck out there.
- 16 Q. You would take what truck, your truck?
- 17 A. Yes.
- 18 Q. And pick it up from Corning and take it to Copick's
19 landfill?
- 20 A. Yes.
- 21 Q. But you would never bring that material to the
22 Albion-Sheridan Landfill?
- 23 A. Not to my knowledge no.
- 24 Q. Did anybody that worked for Blyveis ever take material
25 out to that landfill?

1 A. I don't know, it's a product that they used. .

2 Q. Do you know approximately how much they used?

3 A. No, I don't.

4 Q. When you visited the facility, did you ever notice any
5 drums of TCE?

6 A. No.

7 Q. The only use of TCE you know of is through this problem
8 they have with Michigan Department of Natural
9 Resources; is that correct?

10 A. That's right.

11 Q. Are there any other industries that you know of that
12 use the Albion-Sheridan Township Landfill?

13 A. Corning Glass.

14 Q. Do you know what the nature of Corning Glass business
15 is?

16 A. They were baking color TV tubes; I should say black and
17 white television tubes.

18 Q. Okay. Are they still in business?

19 A. No, they're not.

20 Q. What year did they cease to be in operation?

21 A. I don't recall exactly, it's been a few years, maybe 15
22 years ago.

23 Q. Okay. Do you know what type of truck they used to
24 dispose of their material?

25 A. I don't recall.

1 Q. Do you know the type of containers they used to dispose
2 of their material?

3 A. No.

4 Q. Do you know the type of waste they disposed of?

5 A. Well, at times they'd haul out broken pieces of glass;
6 that's the only product I'm aware of.

7 Q. How do you know they hauled out broken pieces of glass?

8 A. I've seen them. I should recall the truck, but I
9 don't.

10 Q. You saw the broken glass or you saw them disposing of
11 it?

12 A. Both.

13 Q. That was out at the landfill?

14 A. Yes.

15 Q. Do you remember when?

16 A. No.

17 Q. The approximate date: sixties, seventies, eighties,?

18 A. Late sixties, I guess.

19 Q. Prior to 1978?

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. Do you remember any other material that was disposed
22 out there by Corning?

23 A. No

24 Q. And by out there, I mean the Albion-Sheridan Township
25 Landfill?

1 A. Right.

2 Q. Was Corning's use of the landfill consistent as far as
3 you know, in other words, were there breaks in the use
4 of that landfill by Corning or did they use it straight
5 through from 1966 to 1978?

6 A. I don't know. I don't know how often they did use it.

7 Q. Okay.

8 A. We don't have any record of how often they dumped or
9 anything.

10 Q. Do you have any personal knowledge of how often they
11 used it?

12 A. No.

13 Q. Do you know what types of material they generated as
14 by-product or as a way stream from the processes of
15 making TV tubes?

16 A. Well, I imagine -- I mentioned the broken glass, that's
17 all I'm aware of, real fine glass particles.

18 Q. Do you remember anybody mentioning to you that Corning
19 Glass used hydrochloric acid?

20 A. No.

21 Q. Do you know whether any other industries used the
22 Albion-Sheridan Township Landfill between 1966 and
23 1978?

24 A. The only one I recall was Albion College, but most of
25 their waste was paper products from the dormitories.

- 1 A Hauled from three shops around there.
- 2 Q From three shops of McGraw Edison?
- 3 A Yes.
- 4 Q Do you know where all those shops were located?
- 5 A Albion Industry, Corning, McGraw; Albion Industry and
- 6 Corning.
- 7 Q What type of work did Albion Industry do?
- 8 A They made castings.
- 9 Q Castings. Were they always known as Albion Industry?
- 10 A Yeah.
- 11 Q Do you know when they closed business?
- 12 A They haven't closed it.
- 13 Q They're still working?
- 14 A Yes, they're working.
- 15 Q What type of materials did you haul for them?
- 16 A Shavings, steel shavings.
- 17 Q And where did you take these shavings?
- 18 A Jackson.
- 19 Q Do you recall where in Jackson?
- 20 A Jackson Iron on Page Avenue.
- 21 Q What avenue?
- 22 A On Page Avenue.
- 23 Q And then you hauled for McGraw Edison?
- 24 A Yeah, hauled for McGraw Edison.
- 25 Q And you picked up cardboard?

- 1 A. Right.
- 2 Q And you never had any other supervisors?
- 3 A Not there.
- 4 Q Did you ever supervise anyone?
- 5 A He'd tell me and I'd tell the rest of them what to do.
- 6 Q And who were the rest of them? Do you recall any names?
- 7 A Guy Gibson, some guy from Battle Creek named Bob; that
- 8 was about it.
- 9 Q What kind of supervisory responsibilities? What did you
- 10 do as their supervisor?
- 11 A Just tell them where to go; what truck to take and where
- 12 to go.
- 13 Q Did you ever write these orders down?
- 14 A No.
- 15 Q So it was all verbal orders?
- 16 A Yep.
- 17 Q And from Whitey, were those verbal orders?
- 18 A When he wasn't there, I told them where to go.
- 19 Q So you were second in command?
- 20 A Yes, I guess you'd call it that.
- 21 Q And as a truck driver, you drove from Corning, McGraw,
- 22 and Albion Industry?
- 23 A Right.
- 24 Q What kind of materials did you haul from Corning?
- 25 A Corning was cardboard.

- 1 Q Cardboard? No other materials?
- 2 A No.
- 3 Q Where did you take --
- 4 A Iron.
- 5 Q Iron? What type of iron, shavings?
- 6 A No, no. Stuff they tore out or repair the --
- 7 Q Scrap?
- 8 A Scrap, yes.
- 9 Q And where did you take the iron?
- 10 A Back to the yard.
- 11 Q "The yard," your yard?
- 12 A Yep.
- 13 Q And what did you do with the iron then?
- 14 A Cut it up smaller.
- 15 Q And then, what did you do with it?
- 16 A Went to either Malleable or someplace like that. It
- 17 went to Hayes-Albion.
- 18 Q Hayes-Albion. And they recycled?
- 19 A Yep.
- 20 Q So-let's focus on McGraw Edison.
- 21 A Okay.
- 22 Q When did you start hauling at McGraw -- or from McGraw?
- 23 A They was hauling when I started there.
- 24 Q Okay. And do you have a round-about, ball-park
- 25 figure; the '60s?

1 Q Okay. But they didn't dump it in a different corner or
2 in a different pit?

3 A I don't know.

4 Q When this was a gravel pit, before it became a dump,
5 were there several depressions; do you recall?

6 A I don't know.

7 Q You didn't really drive by to ever look at it?

8 A I didn't before I started driving.

9 Q But it was just located on the former gravel pit?

10 A Right.

11 Q Did you see any other trucks, ever, at this landfill?

12 A Corning.

13 Q What kind of a truck was it?

14 A Dump truck. I don't know what they dumped.

15 Q And it had a marking on the side of it that said
16 Corning?

17 A Yes.

18 Q Did you know the drivers from Corning?

19 A One guy was Williams or Washington; I don't know his
20 name.

21 Q But you never spoke to him?

22 A Yeah, I talked to him, but I didn't know his first name.
23 Everybody called him Wash.

24 Q Okay. And he never told you what type of materials --

25 A I never paid any attention to what anybody else was

1 dumping.

2 Q Okay. Did you see him with great frequency, if you
3 would be out there?

4 A They just dumped like I did.

5 Q So about the --

6 A Once a day, maybe three times a day they'd dump.

7 It's -- they dumped stuff from each
8 department. What they'd do, they'd go around to each
9 department, pick up the trash.

10 Q What kind of departments did they have there; do you
11 know?

12 A They made glass tubes is all I can tell you.

13 Q And you knew that from living in this area, that they
14 made glass tubes?

15 A Uh-huh.

16 Q Were they broken tubes?

17 A Broken glass, cardboard that wasn't any good.

18 Q And they dumped in the same pit that you dumped?

19 A Right.

20 Q How about some of the household waste, the area
21 residents; where did --

22 A You'd see tin cans and stuff like that in there.

23 Q And they dumped in the same pit?

24 A In that same place.

25 Q They didn't have a separate --

1 . and drive off.

2 Q So you never really looked at it?

3 A Never looked at it.

4 Q And so that people never really discussed the other
5 types of waste?

6 A No.

7 Q How many other trucks would you see at the landfill,
8 besides Corning?

9 A I don't know. Corning is the only one I can think of
10 right now.

11 Q But you did recall seeing Corning about the same
12 frequency that you were out there, and perhaps even
13 more?

14 A More times than I was.

15 Q Did Whitey Hall ever have any of his drivers take
16 materials from Corning to the dump?

17 A No.

18 Q Did Corning ever haul to any of the other dumps
19 that you know of?

20 A Not that I know of. Just the one on State Street, that
21 one there.

22 Q Do you recall a business named Union Steel?

23 A Yep.

24 Q What type of business were they in?

25 A Wire racks, bakery shelf racks.

- 1 A. No.
- 2 Q. What type of waste would they bring?
- 3 A. Just regular waste material.
- 4 Q. Nothing special?
- 5 A. No.
- 6 Q. No -- any liquids?
- 7 A. No.
- 8 Q. Okay. Do you recall a company named St. Clair oil?
- 9 A. I heard of them. But, I didn't -- I don't think they
- 10 came out there.
- 11 Q. Did you ever see any barrels at the site marked with
- 12 St. Clair oil?
- 13 A. No.
- 14 Q. Do you recall a company named Perolin Company?
- 15 A. No.
- 16 Q. Lastly, do you recall a company named Corning glass?
- 17 A. Yes.
- 18 Q. What kind of company was that?
- 19 A. Well, they made glass like windows, and things like
- 20 that, and they -- what they brought out was mostly just
- 21 forms that they used, and wore out, and couldn't use
- 22 anymore.
- 23 Q. Did they bring any other types of waste?
- 24 A. Not very much, that I remember of. Most of theirs was
- 25 like, might have some boxes, about so big, and it had a

1 hole in it, and they would pour the glass in, and then
2 that would make certain things, and then they would
3 bring the forms out there, after it got wore enough so
4 they couldn't make the glass.

5 Q. Do you recall how often they came to the landfill?

6 A. No, I don't remember exactly.

7 Q. And, that was predominantly the type of waste that they
8 brought to the landfill?

9 A. Yeah.

10 Q. They didn't bring anything else?

11 A. Not that I know of. Not that I remember.

12 Q. Were you aware of when the landfill closed?

13 A. Yeah. It closed before I moved away from there.

14 Q. Do you know why it was closed?

15 A. Well, the state, and the people around there, were
16 hollering too much about it.

17 Q. About the landfill?

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. Why were they hollering about the landfill?

20 A. I don't know.

21 Q. You don't have any recollection?

22 A. No.

23 Q. Who made the decision --

24 A. They hollered all the time it was there anyway. So,
25 that didn't --